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Planning Series

Aubrey Falls Provincial Park

Interim Management Statement



Ontario

Ministry of
Natural
Resources

Hon. Vincent G. Kerrio
Minister

Mary Mogford
Deputy Minister

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July 28, 1986

REGIONAL DIRECTOR'S APPROVAL STATEMENT

This Interim Management Statement will provide interim direction for the management of Aubrey Falls Provincial Park until a comprehensive Park Management Plan is prepared.


This statement will provide the basis for the subsequent preparation of the Park Management Plan.

I am pleased to approve this Interim Management Statement for Aubrey Falls Provincial Park.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "M. A. Klugman", written over a horizontal line.

M. A. Klugman
Regional Director
Northeastern Region





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Additional information about the park and copies of this publication are available from the District Manager, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 190, 62 Queen Street, Blind River, Ontario, P0R 1B0, telephone: (705) 356-2234.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I	LAND TENURE	1
II	EXISTING AND PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT	1
III	RECREATION ACTIVITIES	1
IV	COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES	2
V	NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES	2
VI	VISITOR SERVICES	2
VII	RESEARCH	3
VIII	MARKETING	3
	SELECTED REFERENCES	4

AUBREY FALLS PROVINCIAL PARK
INTERIM MANAGEMENT STATEMENT

I LAND TENURE

The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources received approval to designate Aubrey Falls as a provincial park on January 28, 1985. The park includes 4,705 ha (Figure 1). Ontario Hydro holds a water power lease agreement and two licences of occupation within the park. The balance of the park area is Crown land.

Guidelines:

All Crown land will be retained within the park. The power lease agreement and licences of occupation will be allowed to remain. Ontario Hydro's use of access roads will continue.

II EXISTING/PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

The park is located 80 km north of the Town of Thessalon on the east side of Highway 129.

Aubrey Falls viewing area, associated trail, and parking area are accessed from Highway 129.

The park contains one additional developed access point on the Wenebegon River, south of the Peshu Lake Road. The Ministry of Natural Resources operates a Project Base at the south end of Peshu Lake. Associated with this is the operation of an air strip, which is used for resource management purposes in the area.

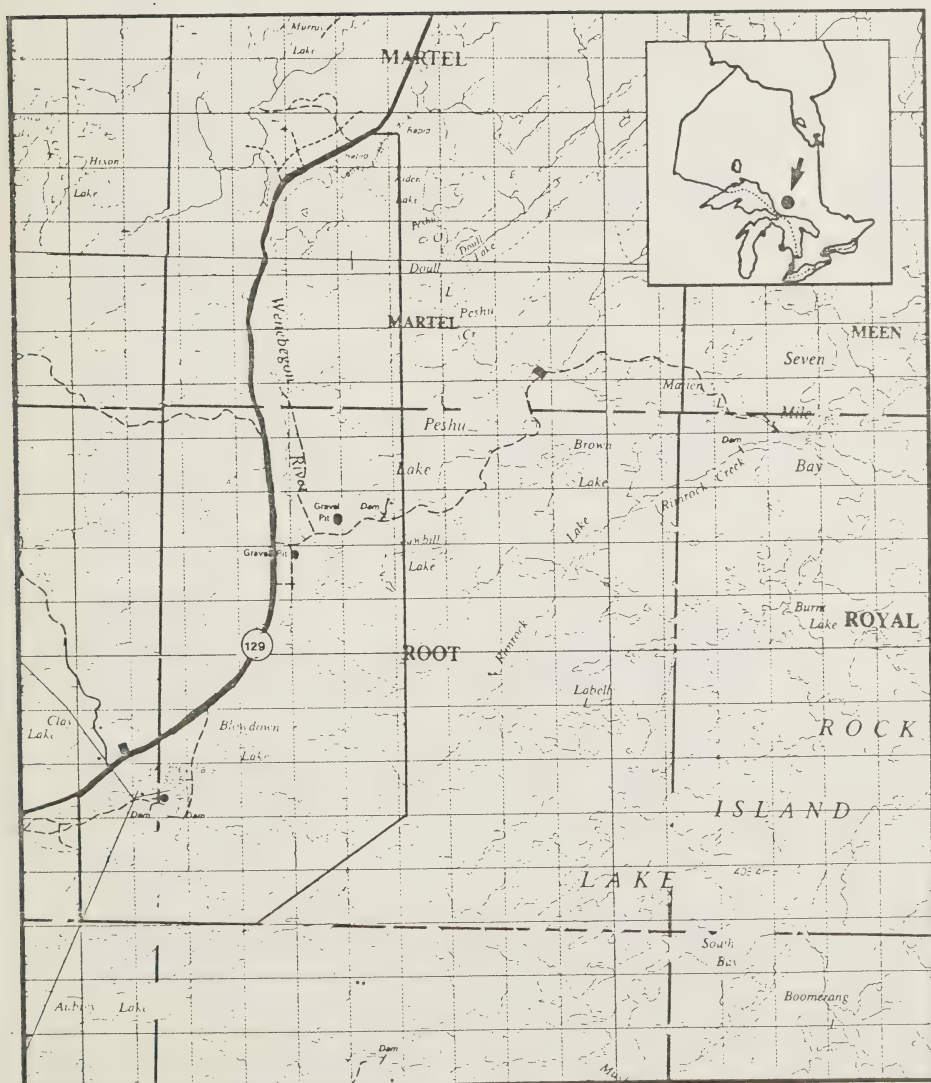
Guidelines:

Maintenance of the Aubrey Falls viewing area and associated facilities will continue as funds and priorities permit. The Peshu Lake project base is operated on a seasonal basis and is not open to the public. Any new development proposals will be reviewed with the public in the management planning process.

III RECREATION ACTIVITIES

The park is the termination point of two canoe routes and is the starting point of one other. Hiking, fishing, hunting, boating, picnicking, and snowmobiling opportunities are all available. Camping is presently permitted at one access point.

Figure 1
AUBREY FALLS
PROVINCIAL PARK



Guidelines:

A review will be made at sometime in the future of the use of the access point for camping and of camping in the park in general. Other recreational activities will be permitted to continue in as much as they do not affect park values.

IV COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES

Bait fishing and trapping are the only commercial activities presently taking place in the park.

Guidelines:

Bait fishing will be phased out in the future when the present licensee no longer requires the area. The licence is not transferrable. Existing trapping will be permitted to continue.

Other commercial activities including forestry, mining, aggregate extraction, and commercial tourism will not be permitted.

V NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

There are no existing natural or cultural resource management plans affecting the area with the exception of a district fire management plan. Some earth science features and archaeological sites have been reported.

Forest management seed collections have occurred in the past within Red Pine plantations in the area.

Guidelines:

Fire management will continue under the district fire management plan. Natural and cultural resources information will be collected as part of the management planning process in the future.

A vegetation management plan will be prepared to identify seed collecting and plantation needs in the context of total park resource management.

VI VISITOR SERVICES

A display board and a trail guide exist for the Aubrey Falls viewing area. A fact sheet describes the location, access, natural features, recreational opportunities and facilities, and cautions about use.

Guidelines:

The above services will continue to be provided.

VII RESEARCH

There have been no comprehensive studies or inventory work conducted in the park.

Guidelines:

Life science and earth science studies will be conducted at a future date as background information is collected for a park management plan.

VIII MARKETING

Aubrey Falls trail is promoted in a variety of area tourism brochures and commercial tourism publications. The last portage on the Mississagi River canoe route also identifies this impressive site.

Guidelines:

The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources will not actively promote this park until management and development plans have been completed.

SELECTED REFERENCES

- Frey, E., Preliminary Geological Nature Reserve Candidates for the Northeastern Region for the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, 1980.
- Macdonald, I. D., Aubrey Falls Park Reserve, Life Science Check Sheet for the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, 1979.
- Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Backgrounder, Land Use Guidelines, 1983.
- Blind River District Land Use Guidelines, 1983.





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